

Dated: March 12, 1999.

**John Berry,**

*Assistant Secretary of the Interior.*

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BILLING CODE 4310-DN-P

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NM-050-1110-00; NMNM 95104]

#### **Public Land Order No. 7382; Withdrawal of Public Lands for the Devil's Backbone Desert Bighorn Sheep Habitat Area; New Mexico**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Public land order.

**SUMMARY:** This order withdraws 5,607.52 acres of public lands from surface entry and mining for a period of 20 years for the Bureau of Land Management to protect and preserve endangered desert bighorn sheep habitat within the Devil's Backbone Desert Bighorn Sheep Habitat Area. The lands have been and will remain open to mineral leasing.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 25, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lois Bell, BLM Socorro Field Office, 198 Neel Avenue NW, Socorro, New Mexico 87801, 505-835-0412.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. Subject to valid existing rights, the following described public lands are hereby withdrawn from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States mining laws, (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (1994)), but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, to protect and preserve endangered desert bighorn sheep habitat within the Devil's Backbone Desert Bighorn Sheep Habitat Area:

#### **New Mexico Principal Meridian**

T. 5 S., R. 3 W.,  
sec. 16, lots 5 to 8, inclusive, N $\frac{1}{2}$ , and  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$   
secs. 21, 28, 29, and 32.

T. 6 S., R. 3 W.,  
sec. 4, lots 3 and 4, and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
sec. 9, W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
sec. 15, W $\frac{1}{2}$ ;  
sec. 16;  
sec. 22, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{2}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ W E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
and SE $\frac{1}{4}$ .

T. 5 S., R. 4 W.,  
sec. 25, E $\frac{1}{2}$ .

The areas described aggregate 5,607.52 acres in Socorro County.

2. The withdrawal made by this order does not alter the applicability of those public land laws governing the use of the lands under lease, license, or permit, or governing the disposal of their mineral or vegetative resources other than under the mining laws.

3. This withdrawal will expire 20 years from the effective date of this order unless, as a result of a review conducted before the expiration date pursuant to section 204(f) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714(f) (1994), the Secretary determines that the withdrawal shall be extended.

Dated: March 12, 1999.

**John Berry,**

*Assistant Secretary of the Interior.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[NM-020-1430-01; NMNM 97074/G-010-G9-0251]

#### **Public Land Order No. 7383; Withdrawal of Public Lands for the Rio Grande Corridor; New Mexico**

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Public land order.

**SUMMARY:** This order withdraws 2,151.80 acres of public lands from surface entry and mining, and 52.30 acres of federally reserved mineral interests underlying private surface estate from mining, for a period of 50 years, for the Bureau of Land Management to protect the outstanding recreational, scenic, wildlife, and riparian values of the Rio Grande Corridor. The lands have been and will remain open to mineral leasing. An additional 1,129.96 acres of non-Federal lands and the surface estate of the above 52.30 acres would become subject to the withdrawal if acquired.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 25, 1999.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Francina Martinez, BLM Taos Field Office, 226 Cruz Alta Road, Taos, New Mexico 87571, 505-758-8851.

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of the Interior by section 204 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. 1714 (1994), it is ordered as follows:

1. Subject to valid existing rights, the following described public lands are hereby withdrawn from settlement, sale, location, or entry under the general land laws, including the United States

mining laws, (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (1994)), but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, for the Bureau of Land Management to protect the outstanding recreational, scenic, wildlife, and riparian values of the Rio Grande Corridor:

#### **New Mexico Principal Meridian**

T. 23 N., R. 9 E.,  
Sec. 22, SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 23, lots 1 to 4, inclusive;  
Sec. 24, lot 2 and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 26, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 27, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and  
W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 34, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , and  
N $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .

T. 23 N., R. 10 E.,  
Sec. 15, lots 6 to 9, inclusive;  
Sec. 16, lot 3 and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 19, lots 14, 20, 21, 22, 36, and 37;  
Sec. 20, lots 13 to 16, inclusive;  
Sec. 21, lots 1, 2, 6, 7, and 8.

T. 24 N., R. 11 E.,  
Sec. 32, lot 3.

T. 27 N., R. 11 E.,  
Sec. 36, lots 5 to 7, inclusive, and a parcel of land consisting of 5.6 acres lying along the west boundary of and within the Antoine Leroux Land Grant.

T. 27 N., R. 12 E.,  
Sec. 30, SW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ , SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ , E $\frac{1}{2}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
and W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ ;  
Sec. 31, lots 1 to 4, inclusive, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  
and 130 acres of the Antoine Leroux  
Land Grant meandering the east  
boundary of the Rio Grande.

T. 28 N., R. 12 E.,  
Sec. 10, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$  except patent No.  
39879.

The areas described aggregate 2,151.80 acres in Taos and Rio Arriba Counties.

2. Subject to valid existing rights, the federally reserved mineral interests in the following described lands are hereby withdrawn from mining under the United States mining laws (30 U.S.C. Ch. 2 (1994)), but not from leasing under the mineral leasing laws, for the Bureau of Land Management to protect the outstanding recreational, scenic, wildlife, and riparian values of the Rio Grande Corridor:

#### **New Mexico Principal Meridian**

T. 23 N., R. 9 E.,  
Sec. 24, tract A and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ .  
T. 23 N., R. 10 E.,  
Sec. 19, lot 13.

The areas described aggregate 52.30 acres in Rio Arriba County.

3. The surface estate of the lands described in Paragraph 2 is non-Federal. In the event these lands return to Federal ownership, they would be subject to the terms and conditions of this withdrawal as described in Paragraph 1.

4. The following described non-Federal lands are located within the Rio Grande Corridor. In the event these